

The Boomer

Vol. 51, No. 2

459th Air Refueling Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve, Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

February 2006

Celebrate diversity



The Boomer

Vol. 51 No. 2

Commander
Col. Stayce D. Harris

Editorial Staff

Director of Public Affairs
Capt. Nikki Credic

Chief of Public Affairs
Capt. Tim Smith

Editor
Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell

NCOIC
Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell

Information Management Specialist
Tech. Sgt. Shirley Wilson

Staff Writers
Capt. Nikki Credic
Capt. Tim Smith
Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell
Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber

This authorized Air Force Reserve newspaper is published for the members of the 459th Air Refueling Wing, Andrews AFB, Md. The Boomer is printed by McDonald and Eudy, Temple Hills, Md. Contents of the Boomer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 459th Air Refueling Wing, 3755 Patrick Ave., Rm. 213, Andrews AFB, Md. 20762-4814, phone number (240) 857-6873. The deadline for submission is the Friday after the UTA for the next month's issue. All photos are the property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

On the cover



WAF Bugler

A/2C Frances E. Courtney furnishes the bugle calls of taps. (U.S. Air Force photo)

The Air Transport Command

After the war, 13 Japanese American WACs were sent to Japan to show the Japanese what Americans of Japanese ancestry were like and to help build bridges across a cultural gap. (U.S. Army photo)

Cousin Navajo Code Talkers

Corporal Lloyd Oliver, a Navajo Indian, operates a field radio while attached to a Marine Artillery Regiment in the South Pacific. Cpl. Oliver also is a sniper and a highly regarded scout. (U.S. Marine Corps. photo)

Pilots of the Tuskegee Airmen

"Tuskegee Airmen" is a book by Maj. James A. Ellison, Jr. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Review of the first

Maj. James A. Ellison, Jr. is the author of "The first class of Tuskegee Airmen" (U.S. Air Force photo)

COMMENTARY

What we do

Commander's Corner

Col. Steve Goeman
Vice Commander



After my first 60 days assigned here to the 459th Air Refueling Wing I thought it was time to sit back and reflect on the real reasons why we serve and what we do. In these two months I've been fortunate to speak to and observe many of our reservists at their workplace.

In this short time I've found that we are indeed a force of more than 1,300 strong, all with a unique story to tell about themselves, but all bonded together by that innate and strong desire to serve.

No column would be complete without some type of reference to our mission so I found it interesting to come across the latest mission statement published by the Air Force Secretary and Chief of Staff:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests – to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

Initially I thought, "oh joy," here comes the latest and greatest flowery statement out of the Air Force Doctrine Center. Surely this will require me to phone a friend with a master's degree in English to translate and decode it for me. However, before wasting a lifeline I decided to take it on myself.

I look to our 459th team for the inspiration of how we fit into this grand scheme of "delivering sovereign options and defending global interests." I felt pretty comfortable with the last phrase "to fly and fight..." Just looking out my office window affords me the luxury of watching our KC-135 fleet and a wide array of Air Force aircraft departing and returning from their various missions. This is the end game result, getting those aircraft to the fight, some with fuel, some with weapons, some with cargo, but all there to add overwhelming strength and power to the fight.

How we get to this end game is where the vast majority of our efforts take place. I've hoped that you've noticed that the word "sup-

port" has not been used in this writing thus far.

With apologies to the Mission Support Group, I wish that we could remove this word from the Air Force vocabulary. In our Air Force specialties we all have a specific job to do and in order to be effective everyone must complete their duties in a superior manner. An old and grizzled general officer told me many years ago that every single Airman is precious and mission essential. If you ask me who has the most important job in the unit I'll give you a simple one word answer, "You!"

You, the individual who works in the military personnel flight and ensures our folks are taken care of; you the crew chief who works in weather conditions less than ideal prepping our jets; you the security forces troop looking out for our safety, you, you, and you are the ones taking care of our business day in and day out with far too little recognition.

Whenever we hear the word "support" I believe that many of us might feel we're saying that this job is subordinate and less important than the unit they think they are "supporting." Forget this idea; our Air Force mission is a total team effort where we are only as strong as the weakest link in our wing. You will never hear me say I need your support, on the contrary I need you to be the best damn Airman in your specialty that you can be, because trust me, we need each individual to step up and contribute.

It was refreshing this past UTA to speak truthfully with a young Airman who had a story to tell about their initial assignment in the Air Force at another base. This Airman was completely honest; their first few years had not been an enjoyable experience. So much so that when this enlistment expires so will this individual's affiliation with us. When asked about their 459th experience, another honest answer, "enjoy the unit, but I think I can do more and contribute, but the opportunity is not there." What a tragedy! A young Airman is begging to do more, but we cannot find a way to make it happen for this individual.

What we do is take care of our folks, mentor them, train them, counsel them, and lead

Continued on pg. 14

www.459arw.afrc.af.mil

THE BOOMER

Government credit card debt can harm your career

By Capt. Tim Smith
Wing Public Affairs

Hheavy financial burden can certainly feel like the weight of the world is upon you. Not even Atlas would like to shoulder the pressure of a supervisor, commander, and Bank of America coming down on him for not paying off his government travel card! But there's good news! The answer is to simply pay it off ... on time!

However, that simple solution has been overlooked by a few servicemembers right here in the 459th Air Refueling Wing, flailing toward a downward spiral that can only lead to a career crash and/or damaged credit.

John Downey, 459 ARW financial manager, said only a few members are having issues paying Bank of America, the GTC provider. And each member is expected to make a complete payment once the bill arrives.

You don't want to get behind the count. At 30 days late, you're in trouble. But at 60 days late, you're in big trouble! The 459 ARW commander, Col. Stayce Harris has a policy concerning the GTC. The policy is in place to ensure compliance with paying off your GTC with split disbursement.

"Split disbursement of travel card payments is mandatory," said Colonel Harris. "And members are still responsible for paying off their accounts in full. Remember to reach out to your supervisors immediately when you are having difficulties."

The split disbursement option is available to help the member. The member totals up the costs that have been accrued over a tour of duty, and then he places that amount on his travel voucher so that it will be paid directly to BOA. If the amount does not cover the balance due, the member is responsible for paying off the remainder on time.

"The member has to try to best guess what their split disbursement is. They have to figure out what they charged and pay the bill," said Downey.

According to the Air Force Accounting and Finance Office, the Department of Defense implemented split disbursement in April 2003 under Public Law 107-314, SEC 1008, Amended Title 10, SEC 2784.

Downey suggests that if you monitor your TDY spending, limit spending to official costs (travel, lodging, rental car) and maintain an accurate record of the amount you rack up, you should have no problem paying the bill through split disbursement.

Of course if you don't pay off your card, because you ignored or forgot the payments, there are penalties.

Non-payment Timeline:

- 30 days late - Your supervisor will be notified.
- 60 days late - Your account will be suspended.
- 75 days late - Fees incurred - \$29
- 90 days late - Credit revoked
- 120 days late - Salary offset and DoD due

process notice

210 days late - Charged off (per public law)
Failure to pay ... it's just like your Discover card. It's no different," said Downey. "If you don't pay, it goes on your credit report."

In addition, according to commander policy, each squadron or flight commander is prepared to use appropriate administrative or Uniform Code of Military Justice action to deal with individuals who do not comply with their obligations under the GTC Program.

If you turn in your travel voucher with the appropriate amount for split disbursement, upon return from your TDY you shouldn't have a problem.

"If submitted within a week, that gives plenty of time not to go delinquent," said Downey. "And if there is a problem with the voucher you have time to correct it."

Now the wing has reservists working in the financial management office on UTA weekends. So you can also see them for assistance.

"It's tough for reservists because they're not out here everyday," said Downey. "Not that I'm trying to justify it, but they're only here when there on orders." However, you're also allowed to fax or email your voucher to FM.

The bottom line is simple. Whatever you charge ... you're responsible to pay for it ... not the government.

FLIGHTLINE

Question: What do you love most about your AFSC?



Tech. Sgt. Christopher Galbraith, 459th RS "As a recruiter I am given the opportunity to start people down a successful path and change the face of the Air Force Reserve."



Maj. Naomi Deshore-Osbourne, 459th AES "As a flight nurse, I am able to provide the best care to our wounded troops."



Master Sgt. Derrick Wright, 459th AES "As a training manager, I am able to be involved in individual's careers at the beginning and end. It is very rewarding"



Tech. Sgt. Bobby Robinson, 459th CES "I am directly responsible for training Air Force members ATSO survival skills."



Senior Master Sgt. Paulette Owens, 459th MSS "Mentoring younger troops and seeing their faces when they successfully complete their CDCs and CCAF."



459th ASTS

Staff Sgt. Sherry Layton completed Airman Leadership School.

Master Sgt. Charmayne Bowles completed the Senior NCO Academy.

Flight Surgeon Maj. Lenard Richardson recently returned from deployment to Turkey and Iraq where he provided medical care for NATO personnel involved in the Pakistan earthquake relief effort.

Maj. James Owens participated in a medical mission to Calcutta, India, and Sri Lanka, in January, as part of the Sunami Relief effort, immediately after completing the Reserve Commission Officer Training course at Maxwell AFB.

Flight Surgeon Lt. Col. Jimmie Drummond has been selected by Governor Robert Erlich to serve on the State Advisory Panel on Electronic Health Records for the State of Maryland.

Lt. Col. William Mosier has been selected as a gubernatorial appointee to the Ohio State Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist Licensure Board.

459th ARW (Wing Staff)

Commander: Col. Stayce Harris is now a resident of Alexandria, Va.

Command Post: Airman First Class Jeffrey Mnich graduated from the AMC Command and Control Course in January as a distinguished graduate.

Chaplain's Office: Chaplain (Lt. Col. Greg Havrilak is doing well in Iraq. We might have a new chaplain coming in soon.

Public Affairs: The new 459 ARW Web site is up and running, check it out. You can either Yahoo or Google if you can't remember the web address. Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber is attending tech school at Ft. Meade, Md.

Legal Office: Tech. Sgt. Tracey Kahn is currently at the paralegal school and should be back next month.

Command Chief: Chief Master Sgt. Patti Hickman will be sitting at the 4th Air Force Twelve Outstanding Airman of the Year board.

Finance Office: The finance office is working really hard on improving customer support; they are on their way.

69th APS

Airman First Class Cassandra Obermuller graduated from technical school with a 96 percent average earning the academic achievement award.

We had a few successful deployments this year so far.

756th ARS

Master Sgt. Shawn Baldy got her commission.

There's been a lot of furlough in the commercial airlines, we had a few guys getting hired.

459th AMDS

On a quarterly basis, we are going to send out a request of where commanders would like shots administered to their folks. We would like to know who needs shots between now and April. AMDS will not see people for immunizations anymore unless they are there for physicals.

Airman First Class Khadisha A. Roebuck had a baby boy November 10, 2005

Senior Airman Amber Barksdale, graduated from Community College of the Air Force with a degree in Health Care Management.

459th MXG

Lt. Col. David Post attended the MXG conference and recieved a lot of good information. A previous MXG commander, Col. Thomas Linster, has retired.

459 MXS: Thank you Col. Harris for acknowledging Tech. Sgt. Brian Stanforth and Staff Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke for the tabletop. Chief Master Sgt. Frank Lamneck is back and we are getting new computers.

459th SFS

We welcomed our new First Sergeant, Master Sgt. Will Serrano.

459th OSF

Lt. Col. Patnode received permission from the 89th Cub Scouts to support the air show.

459th OG

We will be flying around 30 senior leaders to Robins AFB, Ga., for the Senior Leaders Conference.

459th MSG

Lt. Col. Charles Musser's undergrade waiver was approved and Capt. Bruce Carper is the new commander for the communications flight.

Capt. Tim Bourdeau is leaving the 459th as an ART but will remain as a traditional reservist.

Master Sgt. Selda Murphy accepted a job with Homeland Security.

Staff Sgt. Lisa Scarboro found a new job.

Senior Master Sgt. Sonja Kelley is engaged. The wedding is planned for Feb. 18.

759th LRF

January was Capt. Albert Olagbemiro first UTA.

Our first sergeant recently attended the first sergeants conference with the command chief.

Goodbye Micron, hello Dell

Story by Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber
Wing Public Affairs

Goodbye old, gray, and bulky Micron's, hello new, black, and sleek Dell's. Pretty soon, every office of the 459th Air Refueling Wing will be sporting the new Dell flat screen monitors, compact central processing units, and brand new Lexmark printers.

How is it possible that the entire wing will have the latest and greatest in technology, when on a typical UTA it is sometimes hard enough to find a blue highlighter, medium-sized paper clip, or any other small office supplies that aren't thought of until needed? Two words, communication squadron.

Since September 2005, the 459th Communications Squadron has undertaken the annual event of "technology refresh." Technology refresh refers to the process of exchanging old information technology equipment with new equipment.

Notably, this is a process that is initiated by the Air Force Reserve Command and 4th Air Force staff, but coordinated and facilitated by the 459th Communications Squadron.

Throughout the year, AFRC and 4th Air Force communications staff review the wing's information technology equipment via the Information Technology Asset Management System.

During the review, this staff identifies outdated technology equipment and towards the end of the year purchases new replacement technology equipment, forwards contract numbers, and assigns delivery dates for the Wing. Exit AFRC and 4th Air Force, and enter the 459th ARW's own Equipment Control Officer, Mrs. Cinderella Jones; Superintendent, Ms. Diana Johnson; Workgroup Managers, Staff Sgt's Matt Marble and Darlene Barnes; Work Specialist, Staff Sgt. Bernard Horton; Tech. Sgt. Tabatha Lawson and Senior Airman James Boyd

As the new equipment began arriving in December 2005, this team has been hustling in double time to assist units in assessing technology needs; answer technological questions; receive turn-in equipment; remove old equipment; and receive, image, and allocate new equipment.

To expedite the process, equipment in the

largest units is replaced first, followed by smaller units until all of the old equipment has been replaced.

This year the wing received one of its' largest shipments of new technology equipment from AFRC and 4th Air Force. "I had to call and thank them because they really took care of me this year," says Jones of the total shipment of 91 Dell computer monitors, 81 Dell notebooks, 90 Lexmark printers, and 434 Dell Computer systems consisting of a flat screen and compact CPU.

However, the most exciting fact about "technology refresh" is how often it occurs. Before the dust can settle on your monitor and the keys on the keyboard begin to stick, it is time for a new exchange.

According to Staff Sgt. Bernard Horton, individual technology equipment is exchanged every three years. Every three years? So what happened to the old equipment that was probably more updated than the personal computer sitting in your home office? Well, if it was in good condition and did not end up in "computer heaven," it is now being bid upon through Fort Meade's Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office. If not there, it has been funneled through a special donation program that supports local schools, churches, and non-profits.

So as you enjoy the fruits of the Communications Squadron's labor,

treat your new Dell systems with care. Who knows? Three years down the line, your PC may provide the supplementary aid to boost the educational development of local children or even be used to train adults participating in local church programs aimed at improving quality of life.



(Top) Senior Airman James Boyd, 459th CS, delivers printers to the 459th ARW headquarters building. Staff Sgt. Bernard Horton, 459th CS, validates the new computer shipment log. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber).



Civil Air Patrol is not just for kids

By Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell
Wing Public Affairs

Most people think of kids when they hear about the Civil Air Patrol, but that's not the case of the Andrews Congressional Squadron, which is made up of only adults. CAP is an all-volunteer auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and includes approximately 1,500 units across the nation.

According to the CAPWeb site, its 57,000 members perform local, state and national missions and inform U.S. citizens about the importance of aerospace education. The CAP operates one of the largest fleets of single-engine piston aircraft in the world! CAP conducts 95 percent of inland search and rescue in the U.S. Volunteer pilots fly nearly 120,000 hours each year across the country. The three primary functions of CAP's mission is aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services.

Aerospace education entails conducting 100 workshops every year and providing aerospace classroom materials for kindergarten through college. Some cadet programs include multi-step leadership training and glider and powered orientation flights. Emer-

gency services entails disaster-relief and damage assessment and transporting time-sensitive medical materials to needed locations. Approximately, 100 lives are saved each year by the CAP!

One of the 459th Air Refueling Wing's very own air reserve technicians is a long-standing member of this unique organization. Master Sgt. Gary Mauger, 459th Maintenance Squadron, flies a grid pattern in a Cessna 182, single-engine, four-seater, over the Chesapeake Bay in support of aerial reconnaissance for homeland security. "We look for anything unusual. Once, I saw a truck moving at erratic speeds on the Bay Bridge in Maryland. 'These are the things we are looking for,'" said sergeant Mauger. From spring to early fall, Sergeant Mauger flies counter drug missions in support of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms agency looking for unusual suspects possibly trafficking drugs. "We also purposely penetrate the District of Columbia airspace to see if homeland security catches us," said Mauger.

The 26-member Congressional Squadron at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., is a busy unit. Sergeant Mauger has two primary roles in the squadron; pilot and mechanic. For 14

years, Sergeant Mauger has spent his time flying and fixing the Cessna 182's. "I serve as the maintenance officer for the squadron," says Sergeant Mauger while modestly explaining all he does. Routine maintenance, oil changes, anything maintenance related Sergeant Mauger handles. "Because the planes are an Air Force asset, we follow the same set of rules and protocol when handling maintenance issues," said Sergeant Mauger. He puts in three to four days a month on top of his duties as an air reserve technician and reservist here in the 459th. "I actually spend more time fixing them and testing the operations of them," he said.

In the summer, Sergeant Mauger flies missions for the Maryland State Police surveying traffic over the Bay Bridge and reporting back to the police. "We're unique, we do things other CAP units don't do," he said. They do however get involved with kids who are interested in the CAP. Interested kids get the opportunity to fly on incentive rides to see what the Congressional Squadron does. If interested in joining the Congressional Squadron, contact Lt. Col. Edward Arias at (240) 857-4010. "We can really use more pilots," says Sergeant Mauger.



Aerial Porters don't mess around when it comes to training

By Chief Master Sgt. Dilantyra Scott
69th Aerial Port Squadron Superintendent

Nearly 40 members from the 69th Aerial Port Squadron tackled proficiency training at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., during the weekend of Dec. 9-11. The training was in preparation for an upcoming operational readiness inspection planned next March.

Weather related flight delays aside, the troops led by 1st Lt. Aletha Holland and myself, Chief Master Sgt. Dilantyra Scott, were greeted by instructors at the Transportation Proficiency Center at Dobbins ARB, and the next day was filled with excellent training.

The 69th APS members jumped right into their roles and their enthusiastic attitudes were evident as they began training in various aspects of aerial port functions. Some members received classroom training on the relevant mandatory qualification training packages, while others received proficiency training on different pieces of material handling equipment.

These members were highly focused as they went about their day determined to receive as much training as the instructors could offer in the short span of time.

The instructors were so impressed with the positive attitudes and team spirit evidenced that one commented, "You guys don't mess around when it comes to training."

They also said that whenever another transportation unit comes through the center indicating they need additional training, they refer them to the 69th APS for support.

May these members and others like them continue to receive outstanding training such as this, as we prepare to represent the 459th Air Refueling Wing during the Operational Readiness Inspection.

Kudos to the team for a successful training weekend!



Members of the 69th APS use hands on training at the Transportation Proficiency Center at Dobbins ARB, Ga, in December in preparation for the upcoming ORI in March 2007. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Viola Jones, 69th APS).



Members of the 69th APS practice draping cargo with a cargo net during their proficiency training at the Transportation Proficiency Center at Dobbins ARB, Ga. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Viola Jones, 69th APS).

Remember the struggle, enjoy f

Story by Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber
Wing Public Affairs

Time passes in its' usual deceptive fashion. It moves quicker than it lets on while dulling our memories of the past struggles endured to ensure the present freedoms that we easily take for granted.

Even now the echoes of recent memorials and speeches celebrating and honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks fade into our ever-short memories, as we usher in the year's first and longest recognized ethnic heritage month.

I am not the only one who has fallen into the occasional trance of going through the motions of heritage celebrations without sincere reverence for the sacrifice and suffering of our predecessors.

With our hectic schedules and numerous responsibilities, many of us have been guilty of this form of apathy at least once.

We attend celebration breakfasts, luncheons and dinners; sing heritage anthems a dozen times or two; wear traditional ethnic attire at least once to the office or our respective religious establishments; visit historic heritage sites and museums; make sure our children memorize the names and accomplishments of the appropriate leaders; and package all the enthusiasm into a small box to shelve until next year.

Considering service in the U.S. Armed Forces has been a common tool for many disenfranchised groups to demonstrate their honor and equanimity in a society that had often employed harsh social barriers to negate their quality of life, it is only fitting for members of a Wing as diverse as the 459th Air Refueling Wing to honor those before us.

Just take a look at the crowd gathered during the quarterly wing commander's call. Multiple ethnic groups and cultures are represented in the massive pool of enlisted and officer medical technicians, engineers, jet me-

chanics, pilots, and more. Undoubtedly, the 459th ARW is a tangible byproduct of the efforts, hopes, and dreams of those who came before us.

Thus, this year I challenge all of us to remember the contributions and struggles of women, ethnic minorities, and those who championed their cause.

Remember the day our grandparents "whooped" when the Tuskegee Airmen escorted fighter pilots without ever losing one;

"awed" at the Japanese linguists who intercepted voice transmissions and translated key intelligence; exchanged "smug" grins as the Navajo Code Talkers stumped the minds of our enemies; cried "bring-it-on" when the Puerto Rican "*Borinqueneers*" infantry soldiers suited up; and were flat out stunned at the dangerous risks the diverse pool of servicewomen, WASP's and WAC's, were willing and able to take for their country. Remember the hurt, disappointment, frustra-



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Reserve Command Jackson A. Winsett talks to the diverse the floor to questions from the audience. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber).

freedom, and celebrate diversity



audience of 459th ARW enlisted members during on enlisted call in December. Chief Winsett opened

tion, humiliation, fear and courage of these awesome service members, and even their counterparts.

For us, they continued to serve their country while doors remained closed and the policies and pressures of discrimination ran rampant.

This year I challenge all of us to enjoy all of the opportunities and experiences that were not realized for those before us.

In the past, segregation and gender discrimination supported policies that pre-

vented women and ethnic minorities from deploying; filling vital roles in key Air Force Specialty Code's outside of administration and service-support; blocked training opportunities, career development, and advancement; and prevented access to equal pay and benefits. Let us honor their struggle with more than poems, songs, and dinners: let us take advantage of every opportunity and experience that they could not. Train to the highest skill level in your AFSC as soon as feasibly possible. Earn professional

certifications, Community College of the Air Force degree, undergraduate, and graduate degrees utilizing the resources at local military education centers.

Gain hands on experience, career development, and exposure to new cultures and ideas in world deployments. Participate in the growing number of mentorship programs expanding inclusion for women and ethnic minorities in the Air Force fields of aviation, science, engineering, medicine and law.

Encourage one another and utilize the military offices and procedures established to ensure equal opportunity for all service members.

This year I challenge us all to celebrate our diversity. Celebrate an America that our forefathers and ancestors could never have imagined. Celebrate a military that looks and functions like no other military on earth.

Celebrate an Air Force that is leading the way in diversity at the leadership level. Celebrate a wing that is setting the standard for diversity with the

first African-American female operational wing commander of the Air Force, its first female command chief, a number of women and minority commanders and first shirts, seven women and minority pilots, and a plethora of diverse members that provide key support to Wing operations.

Celebrate you and me: with different cultural backgrounds and ideas, working together to make our country, our military, and our homes better, safer, and what we could never imagine.

2006 Reserve Pay for Four Drills

Years of Service

	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-8	1,102.80	1,138.92	1,162.88	1,169.60	1,199.48	1,249.48	1,261.08	1,308.56	1,322.16	1,363.04	1,422.16	1,476.72	1,513.16	1,513.16	1,513.16
O-7	916.36	958.92	978.64	994.28	1,022.64	1,050.60	1,083.00	1,115.32	1,147.72	1,249.48	1,335.44	1,335.44	1,335.44	1,335.44	1,342.20
O-6	679.20	746.16	795.12	795.12	798.12	832.36	836.88	836.88	884.44	968.52	1,017.88	1,067.20	1,095.28	1,123.68	1,178.84
O-5	566.20	637.82	682.00	690.28	717.80	734.32	770.56	797.16	831.48	884.08	909.08	933.84	961.92	961.92	961.92
O-4	488.52	565.52	603.24	611.68	646.68	684.24	730.96	767.44	792.72	807.24	815.68	815.68	815.68	815.68	815.68
O-3	429.52	486.92	525.56	573.00	600.40	630.52	650.04	682.12	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76
O-2	371.08	422.68	486.80	503.24	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60
O-1	322.16	335.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28
O-3E	-	-	-	573.00	600.40	630.52	650.04	682.12	709.12	724.60	745.72	745.72	745.72	745.72	745.72
O-2E	-	-	-	503.24	513.60	529.96	557.52	578.88	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76
O-1E	-	-	-	405.28	432.84	448.80	465.16	481.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24
E-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	536.28	548.44	563.76	581.80	599.92	629.04	653.64	679.60	719.20
E-8	-	-	-	-	-	439.00	458.44	470.44	484.84	500.44	528.60	542.88	567.16	580.64	613.80
E-7	305.16	333.08	345.84	362.76	375.92	398.60	411.32	424.04	446.72	458.08	468.84	475.44	497.68	512.08	548.48
E-6	263.96	290.40	303.24	315.68	328.68	358.00	369.40	382.04	393.16	397.08	399.80	399.80	399.80	399.80	399.80
E-5	241.88	258.04	270.48	283.28	300.16	320.28	332.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88
E-4	221.72	233.08	245.68	258.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12
E-3	200.16	212.76	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60
E-2	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32
E-1	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80

E-1 with less than four months: \$157.08

ART Spotlight

Job Title:
459th Equipment
Control Officer.

Duties: Responsible for all computer equipment in the 459 ARW. Receive all computer equipment, enter assets in the Information Technology Assets Management Program System, print barcodes for assets, distribute assets throughout the wing. Take out of service old assets and replace them with tech refresh assets purchased by 4AF and AFRC.

Length of employment
with the 459th ARW:
Five and a half years.



Ms. Cinderella "C.J." Jones

If you could cure one disease what would it be and why? It would be strokes because then I would not have had one that affected my spine.

Personal Hobbies:
I teach a Bible study
class three times a
week.

Proper wear of new physical training uniform

By Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell
Wing Public Affairs

Air Force members have been sporting the new physical training uniform for nearly a year now at Andrews Air Force Base before it became mandatory wear for Air Force personnel. But most Airmen have not been wearing it properly.

Below are guidelines given if Airmen choose to wear the uniform during personal workouts or for unit fitness activities.

- * T-shirts may be worn out or tucked in;
- * Jackets may be zipped, unzipped and worn with civilian clothes;
- * Black or navy blue leggings or stretch shorts may be worn under the uniform shorts;
- * White socks of any length and small conservative trademarks are authorized;
- * Any athletic shoes may be worn;
- * Safety items such as reflective belts, camelbacks and fanny packs are authorized;
- * Hats or knit caps are authorized provided they meet military image requirements;
- * Headphones are authorized;
- * Bandanas and other similar head scarves are not authorized unless Airmen have a medical waiver;
- * Saluting is not required;
- * Female Airmen exercising may wear their hair free of pins or other accessories normally required to meet uniform standards;
- * Airmen must comply with tattoo and jewelry standards while in the physical training uniform as stated in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

The Air Force Uniform Board established the mandatory wear date as Oct. 1, 2006. The physical training uniform was created to support unit cohesion and present a professional, standardized image. The uniform board is working on optional items including a long-sleeve shirt, sweatshirt and a different style of running shorts.

Enlisted members of the 459th Air Refueling Wing will be issued the new uniform. See your clothing monitor for more details. Those who don't want to wait can purchase one at Military Clothing Sales. The following is a breakdown of the prices: jacket: \$57.30; pants: \$36.95; T-shirt: \$6.40; running shorts: \$11.15.



Tech. Sgt. Sgt. Avril Mitchell, recruiter, 459 ARW, demonstrates the proper wear of the new physical training uniform (Courtesy photo).

2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Awards



ARLINGTON, Va. – The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, in conjunction with the Secretary of Defense, announced that nominations will be accepted at the ESGR website beginning January 9th for the 2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom

Awards.

The nomination process will conclude on February 28. To nominate employers, National Guardsmen, Reservists, or their family members need only to visit the ESGR website at www.esgr.mil, and complete the 2006 Freedom Award nomination form online.

Previous recipients have included a “who’s who” of corporate America, including Home Depot, Wal-Mart, Sears, GE, Verizon, and UPS. State and local governments and a number of America’s small businesses, who are the majority of National Guard and Reserve employers, have also been recipients.

More information about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil, or by calling Tom Bullock at the National Committee Office at (800) 336-4590.

CARs to assist Airmen with TSGLI benefits

The casualty assistance representative at each base is the primary point of contact for assisting potentially eligible members with Traumatic Injury Protection Insurance applications in coordination with the base military treatment facility.

TSGLI coverage is a tax free lump sum payment ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000 depending on the extent of the injury. Members insured under the Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance policy are automatically covered at an increase in their premiums of only \$1 per month.

The coverage also includes a retroactive provision for Airmen who suffered a qualifying loss as a direct result of injuries incurred in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom from Oct. 7, 2001 through Nov. 30, 2005. Enrollment in SGLI is not a requirement to receive the retroactive TSGLI benefits.

For more information contact the 459 MPF customer service office at (240) 857-3843.

Airmen with questions regarding eligibility or processing requirements for retroactive TSGLI benefits may also contact the AFPC casualty services branch at (800) 433-0048.

Thrifty Savings Plan Changes for 2006

Beginning in January, employee contributions to a regular TSP account are no longer limited to a set percentage each pay period. Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System (FERS) may contribute the full Internal Revenue Service (IRS) annual maximum of \$15,000 for 2006.

As a result, Air Force-serviced civilian employees may submit an election to contribute any whole percentage (between 1 and 100 percent) of basic pay or whole dollar amount each pay period. Caution: If you designate a percentage and the amount exceeds remaining salary after mandatory and other voluntary deductions that occur ahead of TSP contributions, then only the remaining salary will be contributed to TSP.

If you designate a whole dollar amount and it exceeds remaining salary, no TSP contributions will be made, and if you are FERS, no Agency Matching Contributions will be received. If this happens, you will need to submit a new election for either a lower dollar amount or a percentage. No contributions will be withheld from pay until the new election is effective.

Employees may use the Elective Deferral Calculator on the TSP website at www.tsp.gov to determine the amount to contribute each year. This calculator will assist FERS employees in avoiding loss of Agency Matching Contributions. Remember also – you may change your contribution election at any time during the year.

For all FERS employees: In order receive maximum Agency Matching Contributions throughout the entire year, you must contribute at least 5 percent of basic pay every pay period. Keep this in mind when determining how much to contribute. Once the maximum contribution limit of \$15,000 is reached, your employee contributions and Agency Matching Contributions will be suspended for the remainder of the year.

Air Force-serviced employees will submit their TSP contribution elections/changes via the web-based Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) or the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST) automated phone system (see newsletter heading for web address and phone number).

Tips Offered for Tax Season

Tax season has once again arrived, and military personnel should know several things to make their returns easier and more beneficial, a military official said here yesterday.

Servicemembers who spent time deployed have important things to keep in mind when filing their taxes, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

For example, Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo all qualify as combat zones where military income is tax exempt, she said. For enlisted servicemembers, all income earned in a combat zone is exempt, but for officers, income is excluded up to a certain limit.

For 2005, the limit for officers’ tax-exempt income was \$6,529 a month, she said. Tax-exempt income is a great thing, but it has worked against some servicemembers by exempting them from important credits, Fenton said.

Two credits that military members often qualify for — earned income credit and child tax credit — require earned income to be claimed, she said. Starting this year, servicemembers can elect to include their combat zone income to qualify for these credits, she explained. She stressed that this income will not be taxed, but will allow servicemembers to receive credits they qualify for. “Just because you think you didn’t have earned income due to your combat zone time, it’s worth your effort to go to the tax center and find out if you do qualify for these two important credits,” Fenton said.

Servicemembers in a combat zone during tax season get an automatic extension to file their taxes, Fenton said. Servicemembers have six months from the time they leave the combat zone to file, she said.

Military personnel can also get help online with their taxes, Fenton said. The IRS provides a Free File service on its Web site, which lists several tax preparation services, many of which provide free service to military members, she said. The Web site Military OneSource also provides free tax assistance to military members.

To prepare to file taxes, servicemembers should make sure they have their W-2 forms from the military and any other jobs they had in the past year, Fenton said. Servicemembers should also make sure they have Social Security cards for themselves and their dependents, she said.

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

PROMOTIONS

Effective January 1, 2006



Senior Master Sgt. Frankie Rollins
Senior Master Sgt. Leaudry Walker



Staff Sgt. Charles Howard
Staff Sgt. Sherry Layton
Staff Sgt. Regina McCloud
Staff Sgt. David Snyder



Master Sgt. James Brockman
Master Sgt. John Hammer
Master Sgt. Jaye Purnell



Senior Airman Quincy Boggan
Senior Airman Jeffrey Cravener
Senior Airman Jason Grady
Senior Airman LaToya Hall
Senior Airman Heather Morehouse
Senior Airman Khadisha Roebuck
Senior Airman Daniel Schneider



Tech. Sgt. Paul Bohle
Tech. Sgt. Wendy Clevenger
Tech. Sgt. William Drose
Tech. Sgt. Tracie McNamara



Airman 1st Class Leonard McNeill
Airman 1st Class Nicholas Seemiller



Airman Ryan Black

NEWCOMERS

Maj. Andre Boyd
Maj. Samuel Lemon

756ARS
756ARS

Capt. Daniel Davis
Capt. Angela Williams

756ARS
459ASTS

Technical Sgt. Russell Boersma
Technical Sgt. Donna King
Technical Sgt. Eric Londres
Technical Sgt. Frederick Robinson
Technical Sgt. John Smith

459 AES
459 AES
459 ASTS
459 AMDS
459 AMXS

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Cox
Staff Sgt. Allan Richards
Staff Sgt. Aida Solis
Staff Sgt. Kevin Wiggins
Staff Sgt. Dorothy Yates

459 MSF
459 MXS
459 ASTS
459 CES
459 LRF

Senior Airman Joshua Corbin
Senior Airman John Hinson
Senior Airman Jason Messersmith
Senior Airman Peter Ortiz

69 APS
459 AES
459 AES
459 AMDS

Airman 1st Class Shawn Alexander 459 MXS
Airman 1st Class Jerome Brooks 459 SFS
Airman 1st Class Leon Flores 459 LRF
Airman 1st Class Tineshia Johnson 459 ASTS
Airman 1st Class Brian Morales 459 AMDS
Airman 1st Class Natalie Morehouse 459 AES
Airman 1st Class Cassandra Obermuller 69 APS
Airman 1st Class Steven Weaver 459 SFS

Airman Keith Raley 459 CES

Airman Basic Jeremy Kilpatrick 459 CF
Airman Basic Leslie Kirby 69 APS
Airman Basic Robert Schuler 459 CES
Airman Basic JaVonda White 69 APS

What we do *continued from pg. 2*

them! Our 1,300 plus warriors stand ready and willing to defend this great country of ours. We had all better step up to this challenge and make that happen.

Don't waste our time giving less than your best effort. When you sign out late on Sunday afternoon after the UTA weekend, ask yourself, "What did I do over the past two days to improve my unit?" On your drive home if you are both tired and excited about what transpired I would believe you've had a successful session. We need your time, your talents, your expertise and experience, and finally your belief that you are indeed making a difference.

For those of you I've met already, thanks for the effort, honest communication, and can do attitude; for those I've not had the honor of meeting, I am looking forward to hearing your story and watching all that you do for us.

Cell Phone Restrictions On Base



Effective Dec. 1, 2005, cell phone use is prohibited in moving vehicles, unless used with a hands-free device on all DoD installations.

According to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 32 National defense, a \$50 fine applies if caught on base. The installation traffic codes reflect the new driver distraction rules. The traffic code states, "vehicle operators on a DoD Installation and operators of Government owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device. The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices (except for hand-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited.

Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles, and human speech. DoD Component safety guidance should note the potential for driver distractions such as eating and drinking, operating radios, CD players, global positioning equipment, etc. Whenever possible this should only be done when the vehicle is safely parked."

1st Annual Awards Banquet

The 459th Air Refueling Wing is holding its first annual awards banquet, Saturday, Feb. 25. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6:30 with presentations and dancing to follow. Attire is business casual. Guests are welcome. (Cash bar will be available). The banquet is located at the Scott-Johnson-Collins VFW, 6527 Suitland Road, Morningside, Md. Tickets for you and guests can be purchased by:

Capt. Melisa Vines (240) 857-3765
Chief Master Sgt. Patti Hickman
(240) 857-2934
Chaplain Moore, (240) 857-7066

Cost is as follows (including guests):
All officers (GS-11 and above)--\$25
E7-E9, GS 9, WS 9-15--\$20
E5-E6, GS5-8, WG9-12--\$15
E1-E4, GS 2-3, WG 5-8--\$10 per person

In Case of Emergency Call 911

As everyone should be aware the Emergency Reporting Number from an on base phone is 911. However when utilizing a cell phone, while on base the Emergency Reporting Number is (301) 981-9911.

Vacancy in Family Support Center

The Family Support Center is looking for a highly motivated member to join their team.

- *TR position (SSgt or above)
- *Packages due Jan UTA
- *Last 3 EPRs
- *Resumes (military and civilian), if available
- *Current CC recommendation

Interviews held Sunday, Feb UTA. Excellent communication and customer service skills. Please contact Master Sgt. Jennifer Hutcherson at (240) 857-7048, if interested.

Wanted

The Reserve Retiree Affairs Office needs your help. By the request of the Wing Commander, they are creating a new look for the 459 ARW headquarters foyer. They will be creating a display representing each squadron with photographs and memorabilia.

They are also looking for anyone with artistic abilities or ideas for painting a wing mural. Each unit first Sergeant will be the point of contact for the project. For further information or questions e-mail Jennifer.Hutcherson@andrews.af.mil.

Spouse Orientation and Kids Warrior Day

Spouse Orientation and Kids Warrior Day will be held Saturday, April 29. This day is tailored just for spouses and kids. Spouses will have an inside look at the mission of the 459 ARW with a few briefings on military entitlements, a luncheon and an aircraft tour. Kids will enjoy a day of fun with an inside peek of what mom and dad go through for a deployment. The junior members will be able to experience a mobility processing line, receive an aircraft tour, and get an up close look at a fire engine. Advanced reservations are required. When making a reservation, please provide the names and ages of children. Reservations will be accepted, for both the spouse orientation and the kids day, until COB April 14. E-mail Jennifer.Hutcherson@andrews.af.mil. Space is limited, sign up early.

Do You Have a Legal Question?

The Armed Forces Legal Assistance Web site <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil> is a joint initiative of the Armed Forces legal assistance offices that aims to provide general legal information to the military community to enhance its readiness. The information provided through this Web Site is for education and general information purposes. It is not legal advice. Contact the legal offices at (240) 857-3855, for questions.

PAY DAYS

Pay days will no longer be published in The Boomer. Call the finance office for pay questions at (240) 857-0314/0315.

Military Pay Hours of Operation

Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
UTA Sat., 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Closed UTA Sun.
Office: (240) 857-0314/0315
Easy Pay Access: 1-800-755-7413

FY 2006 UTA SCHEDULE

Feb. 25-26, Alt 11-12
March 25-26, Alt 11-12
April 29-30, Alt 8-9
May 13-14, No Alt
June 8-11 ORI Flyaway
June 24-25, No Alt
July 29-30, Alt 15-16
Aug. 26-27, Alt 12-13
Sep 23-24, Alt 9-10

Have a drink on the 459th ARW tabletop



(Top) Tech. Sgt. Brian Stanforth, 459th MXS, and Staff Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke, 459th MXS, receive recognition from Col. Stayce Harris, 459th ARW commander, on stage at the January commander's call for making a tabletop for The Club at Andrews AFB, Md. Senior Master Sgt. Howard Lee, 459th SJA, holds the handmade tabletop for the photo. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Natasha Suber).

(Bottom) Staff Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke, Col. Stayce Harris, Tech. Sgt. Brian Stanforth, pose with the club operations assistant manager, Mr. Robert Smith and Mr. Chuck Loscocco, club beverage manager.



459TH AIR REFUELING WING
AIR FORCE RESERVE
3755 PATRICK AVENUE
ANDREWS AFB MD 20762-4814
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

First Class Mail
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Temple Hills MD
Permit No. 4004